

## By the Queene.

A Proclamation for the due obseruation of Fish dayes, supressing of vnecessary number of Alehouses, and for the better execution of the late a<sup>t</sup>e for punishment of Rogues, Vagabonds and Beggers.



The Queenes most excellent Maiestie graciouly considering, the great and manifold inconueniences, which dayly increase within this her Maiesties Realme, for want of due execution of such good and wholesome Statutes, as haue from time to time bene made, forbidding the eating of flesh on dayes and times prohibited, whereby Almighty God is iustly offended, the pricess of victuals are greatly enhaunsed and raised, and the whole common wealth of this Realme greatly damnisid, and seafaring men and Mariners greatly diminished: And purposing the redresse and reformation thereof, of her Prince-ly care for the weale and good of her louing Subiects, willeth and commandeth that all and everythe Noblemen, Knights, Esquires, and others being of the better sort of her Highnesse Subiects, doe from time to time take order that the sayd Statutes be duely obserued and kept, within their owne houses amongst their families, seruants, and followers, whereby others her Highnesse good and louing Subiects, may be drawn and admonished by their good example, to bse and keepe the like orders within their severall houses and abidings. And further, her Highnesse straitly chargeth and commandeth, that all and every Inne keeper, Tauerner, Alehouse keeper, and other persons whatsoeuer, busing any trade of victualling within this Realme, shall with all conuenient speed enter into Bond with sufficient sureties to her Maiestie, the sureties to be bound in tenne pounds a piece, and the parties in the summe of twentie pounds, That they shall not willingly permit or suffer any kind of flesh to be eaten in their houses by any person, vpon any dayes prohibited by the sayd Statutes. And that the Justices of Peace, within all and everythe Countys, Cities, Boroughs, Townes, place and places of this Realme, doe with all conuenient speede within their severall limits, take the said Bonds, of all and every such persons accordingly. And that the said Justices of Peace doe from time to time certifie and returne all and euery such Bonds, so by them, or any of them taken, as is aforesaide, vnto the Barons of her Highnesse Exchequer within the space of thre Moneths after the taking thereof, to the ende that the same Bonds may remaine in the custodie of such Officer, as by the said Barons of her Highnesse Court of Exchequer shall be assigned and appointed to keepe the same. And that the said Justices of Peace and euerie of them shal from time to time do their best indeuours, to learne and find out whether any of the said persons so bound before them shall not obserue the condition of their bonds. And if they shall find any such Bond to be forfaite, that they doe with all conuenient speede certifie the said forfaiture, and the cause thereof vnto the said Barons, to the end that such course may forthwith be taken for the leuying of the same forfaitures, as to Justice appertaineth, and is agreeable to the course of our said Court of Exchequer. And her Highnesse further willeth and commandeth, that if any Inne keeper, Tauerner, Alehousekeeper, or other victualler whatsoeuer, within this her Highnesse Realme, shall refuse to enter into such Bond, as is aforesaide, that then and from thenceforth, all and euery such Innekeeper, Tauerner, Alehouse keeper, and other victualler, so refusing to enter into Bond, as is aforesaide, shall be debarred and restrained from keeping of any such Inne, Tauerne, Alehouse, or other victualling house, vntill such time as he shall haue entred into such Bond with Sureties, as is before. And further, her Highnesse straitly chargeth and commandeth, that no Butcher bee suffered or licenced to kill any flesh to be spent in the time of Lent, but onely in great Cities, that be Countys of themselves, and in those such onely, as shall be very fit and needfull to serue to make prouision for the sick and weake, and as shall be lawfully licenced, without giuing any thing for any such licence or sufferance to any person or persons directly or indirectly. And for that the vnecessary numbers of Alehouses, and victualling houses, since God hath blessed this Realme with a competent store of corne, haue bene suffered greatly to increase, seeing they are the occasions not only of great walle, ryot, and expences, whereby an unlooked for dearth may eftsoones fall on this Realme, but also of infinite idlenesse, thefts, and other inconueniences and disorders within the same, to the great displeasure of Almighty God, and ruine of the common weale of this Realme: Therefore her Maiestie straitly chargeth and commandeth, that the sayd unnecessary

tie and superfluous number of Alehouses and victualing houses, be from time to time kept downe and restraine by the Justices of the Peace, and other her Highnes Officers to whom it shall appertaine. And that no Alehouses nor victualing houses be suffered, but such as shall be very needfull, and the same to be onely in fit and needfull places, and to be kept by such persons as shalbe thought very fit for the same, and which shall be carefull to obserue all such good orders, as are or shall be prescribed vnto them.

And where also diuers good Lawes and Statutes haue beene lately made for the suppreſſing and punishment of Rogues and Wagabonds, wandring vp and down this Realme idly and insolently, to the great offence of Almighty God, and of her Maiestie, and of all honest and well disposed ſubiects, and to the great prejudice of this whole common weale, which Lawes and Statutes, ſo long as by the good and faithfull care and diligence of her Highnes Justices of Peace & other inferior Officers they were duly and carefully purſued and exectuted, the ſayd Rogues and Wagabonds in many places for a whiile were greatly diminished, and idlenesse, thefts, and other insolencies and disorders very much auoyded, and the wealth and happinelle of this Realme were likely thereby to have increased and growen more abundant: But when and as ſoone as, through the negligence and remiſneſſe of the ſayd Justices and other Officers, the ſayde Lawes and Statutes were not put in due execution, many great enormities and disorders began ſoothwiche to trouble and incumber the happy, quiet and good government of this Realme, which are likely daily more and more to increase and grow if ſome ſpeedie remedy be not applied to reforme and redreſſe the ſame. In conſideration whereof her Maiestie doth ſtraightly charge and command all and every the high Constables, and other the head Officers of every Hundred, wapentake, precinct and libertie within this Realme, that they and every of them, once in every moneth doe call before them the inferior Officers within the ſaid Hundred, wapentake, and Libertie, and to inquire, know, and vnderſtand, how the ſame Lawes and Statutes haue bene obſerued within their ſeveral jurisdictions, and in whom any default hath bene that the ſame haue not bene obſerued: And that the Justices of the Peace of every limit, once every ſix weekeſ take a like account of the head Constables, and other chiefe Officers within their ſeveral limits, how the premitiſes haue bene obſerued, and in whom any default or negligence hath bene, and that thereupon they bee admoniſhed carefully to ſee to the due and ſpeedy punishment of the offendres therein according to the lawes. And further her Maiestie willetteth and requireth all Justices of peace, to whose truſt and care her Highneſſe hath, and doth chiefly commit the exectution of every part of this her Proclamation, that they and every of them doe faithfully, diligenty, and effectually demeane themſelues in the due performance therof in every degree according to the conuincion whiche her Highnes reponeth in them in that behalfe. Otherwiſe, her Highneſſe hath giuen expreſſe order and commaundement, that the ſayd Justices, through whose negligence, remiſneſſe, or coniuiency the ſayde offendres ſhalbe continued, ſhall be called to anſwere, and giue an account thereof, & receive ſuch condigne punishment for the ſame, as to the quality of ſuch their offendre and contempt ſhall appeare moſt fit and conuenient. And to the ende that the premitiſes may the better be obſerued and kept, her Maiestie hath cauſed an abstract of ſuch Statutes as are thought fit to be put in exectution by force of this Proclamation, to be annexed hereunto: willing and commanding that the ſayd abstract be openly read and publiſhed by the Clerke of the Peace for the time being at every quarter Sessions to be holden within this Realme, and once every quarter at the leaſt in every Parish Church by the Parſon, Minister or Curate thereof. Giuen at her Highneſſe Manne of Richmond the xiiiij. day of Januari, in the two and fourtieth yeere of her Highneſſe reigne,

God ſave the Queene.

Anno 5. Reginæ Elizabethæ. cap. 5.



If any person of what estate or degree ſoever do within this Realme eate any fleſh vpon any dayes, vbiually obſerued as fish dayes, doe forſet three pound for every time he ſhall offend, or els ſuffer three Moneths close impriſonment without baile or mainprize.

And every person of what estate or degree ſoever, in whose house any ſuch offendre ſhall be done, and being priuie or knowing thereof, and not effectually punishing or diſcloſing the ſame to ſome publicke Officer, hauing authority to puniſh the ſame, for every ſuch offendre to forſete ſixteene ſhillings, which forſets are to be deuided into three equal parts, one part to the uſe of her Maiestie, the ſecond to the uſe of the Informer, the third to the common uſe of the Parish where any ſuch offendre is committed.

No person ought to keepe any common Alehouse, or uſe common ſelling of Ale or Beere, unlesſe ſuch person be admitted thereunto in open Sessions of the Peace, or els by two Justices of the Peace, whereof the one to bee of the Quorum, and be bound by ſurety by recogniſance, againſt the uſing of unlawfull games, and for the maintenancē of good order, vpon the penaſty contained in that Statute: this Act doth alſo extend to tippling in Innes by ſuch as are no paſſengers or wayfaring men, and to common ſelling of Ale and Beere by Inholders.



That Justices of peace and all other Officers and Ministers to whom it appertaineth, doe see this Act duly and carefully put in execution in all points: for the better effecting whereof, certaine doubts and questions which haue arisen, or may arise vpon the generall words of the same, are here expounded and resolved.

A Rogue affirmeth that he was borne in such a Towne in such a Countie, He ought to bee sent thither, if it may not otherwise appeare he was borne elsewhere. And if he were not borne there in truthe, he is to be sayd an incorrigible Rogue, and to be sent thence to the house of Correction in the Countie to which he is sent. If there be none there, then to the Gaole vntill the next Sessions, there to be dealt with according to the Statute.

If the husband or wife haue a house, and the husband or wife rogue about, they ought to be sent to the Towne where that house is, and so of an Inmate.

If the Parents be able to worke, and may haue worke, they are to finde their children by their labour, not the Parish. But if they be overburthened with children, it shall be a very good way to procure some of them to be placed Apprentices according to the Statute.

The same course is to be obserued, if it appare not where he was borne, if he affirmeth that he was last dwelinge in such a Towne in such a Countie by the space of a yeere, and was not.

The wife and children vnder seuen yeeres of age being vagrant, must goe and be placed with the husband. If the husband be dead, then with the wife where she was borne or dwelt. And the vagrant children aboue seuen yeeres of age, must be sent to the place of their birth. And if after the vagrant Parents with their children vnder seuen yeeres be placed at the place of the birth of the Parents, or at their place of last dwelling, as the case shall fall out, If after the Parents or either of them dye or runne away, yet the children once settled must remaine there still, and not be sent to their place of birth, though after they growe aboue the age of seuen yeeres.

The Rogue whose place of birth or dwelling cannot be knowen, hath wife and children vnder seuen yeeres of age, they must goe with the husband to the place where they were last wilfully suffered to passe without punishment, where the children must be relieued by the worke of their Parents, though the Parents be committed to the house of Correction.

If any trauell with their children through a Towne not being Rogues, and the Father or Mother dye or runne away, the Towne is not bound to keepe them where they dye, nor to send them away but in charite, except they become wandring beggers.

The wife being a vagrant Rogue ought to be sent to the husband, though he be but a servant in another Towne.

Such persons as be of any Parish and haue able bodyes to worke, and bee no wanderers abroad out of the Parish though they refuse to worke at such wages as is taxed or commonly given in these parts, are notwithstanding not to be sent to their place of Birth or last dwelling by the space of a yeere, but to the house of correction, vpon consideration had of both the Statutes of the poore and Rogues, But if they haue any lawfull meanes to liue by though they be of able bodies and refuse to worke, yet are they not to be sent to the house of Correction.

No man is to be put out of the Towne where he dwelles, nor to be sent to their place of birth or last habitation, but a vagrant Rogue, nor to be found by the Towne except he be impotent, but ought to set himself to labour if he be able: And the Overseers must set him to labour, if he can get no labour, And so of them that haue or shall haue houses when their estates be expired, And servants whose times of services are ended though they cannot get houses, for they must provide themselves houses anew if they be not impotent.

Such as will put any out of the Parish that be not to be put out, this is against the Statute concerning the relife of the poore, and finable, And if any haue bene so sent, they may be sent backe againe.

If any be sent to a towne, whereto he ought to be sent, and is refused being a surdy, or an impotent Rogue, the persons refusing shal forfeit v.li. And he that is so to be sent, is to be offered to the Churchwardens and Overseers.

To send the Rogues by a generall Pasport, without conveying them from Parish to Parish, is a let to the conveying of Rogues according to the Statute, and so a forfeiture of v.li. vpon them, And to goe with such a Pasport, is still to continue a Rogue to be punished by whipping.

A Towne will not receive a Rogue, to convey him to the place where he was borne or dwelt, This is a forfeiture of v.li. in the Officers that should receive that partie, to convey him or her ouer.

None ought to be suffered to take Relife at any mans doze, though within the same Parish, unlesse it be by the order of the Overseers according to the Statute, neither may any be suffered to begge by the high wayes, though in their owne Parish.

Parents, within this word is included, a Father, or a Grandfather, Mother, or Grandmother.

Children, within this word is included, any Childe, or Grandchilde being able.

Parsons, or Vicars, &c. bee bound to the Relife of the poore, as well as others, being inhabiting in the Parish as an Inhabitant.

Every one that hath Tithes improprieate, Cole mines, or Lands in manuell occupation, &c. is chargeable, and so for such as haue salable Woods proportioning the same to an Annuall benefit.

If there be but one Churchwarden, he sufficeth with the other fourt Overseers.